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Inter	national	Application No.	:	PCT/EP2003/013205	
Inter	national	Filing Date	:	November 25, 2003	
Prior	ity Date	e(s) Claimed	:	December 13, 2002	
Appl	icant(s)	(DO/EO/US)	:	Michael Howard RAYNER-BRANDES	
Title	: MET	HOD AND DEVICE	E FOR DRY	TNG OF MICRO-ORGANISMS	
INF	ORMA'	TION DISCLOSUE	RE STATE	MENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98	
P.O.	Box 14:	er for Patents 50 VA 22313-1450			
Sir:					
and 1		information disclosur ollows:	re statement	is made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97	
<u>Timi</u>	ng and l	Fees			
\boxtimes		er 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(bosure statement is file	•	statement is required for filing this information	
		within three month under § 1.53(d);	ns of the fili	ng date of a national application other than a CPA	
		within three mont application; OR	hs of the a	ctual filing date of the national phase of a PCT	
	\boxtimes	before the mailing RCE).	of a first su	bstantive office action (including after filing of an	
	Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), this information disclosure statement is filed after the pespecified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of:				
		-	secution, e.	R. 1.113; g. Ex Parte Quayle, M.P.E.P § 609(B)(2); OR	

		is acco	ompanied by:
			the statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) set out below; OR
			a check covering the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
			R. § 1.97(d), this information disclosure statement is filed after the mailing lowing actions which have not been withdrawn:
		a final	action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113;
		termin	ation of prosecution, e.g. Ex Parte Quayle, M.P.E.P § 609(B)(2);
		OR a r	notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311;
	AND i	is filed o	on or before payment of the issue fee; AND is accompanied by:
			tement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) as set forth below, and the fee of 00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
Staten	nents Ui	nder 37	C.F.R. 1.97(e)
			Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application having a mailing date not more than three months prior to the filing date of this information disclosure statement; or
			No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the undersigned attorney after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing date of the information disclosure statement.
Cited	<u>Materia</u>	<u>ls</u>	
		ancest	of materials listed but not attached were cited in benefit (35 U.S.C. § 120) or application Serial No, on Form 892 by the Examiner and/or Form by the applicant; see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).
	\boxtimes		s of materials listed but not attached were cited in an international search dated March 15, 2004.
		Not re	quired by 37 CFR § 1.98.
		Copies	s of the materials listed are attached (except for the foregoing).

Non-E	nglish l	Language References
		An English-language search report or equivalent paper from a foreign patent office is provided indicating the relevance of the cited reference(s).
		A foreign-language search report from a foreign patent office is provided, and pertinent parts are translated substantively below:
		 X = document of particular relevance when it is taken alone Y = document of particular relevance when it is combined with another such document A = document defining the general state of the art
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account #13-3402, two copies of this paper are attached for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony J. Zelano, Reg. No. 27,969

Attorney for Applicants

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Attorney Docket No.: MERCK-3006

Date: June 10, 2005

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THE PLANT OF COURT	Filing Date	June 10, 2005
NFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Michael Howard RAYNER- BRNADES et al.
STATEMENT DV	Group Art Unit	Unassigned
(use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet 1 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	MERCK-3006

			U.S. P	ATENT DOCUMENTS	
		U.S. Patent Docume			Date of Publication of Cited Document
Examiner	l		Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	MM-DD-YYYY
Initials *	Cite No.1	Number 4886664	(II KITOWIII)	Jung Gerard et al	December 12, 1989
	1			Okonogi Shigeo et al.	December 19, 1989
	2	4888171		Choriog. Congress	
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Initials*	Cite No.¹	Office ³	Number ⁴ 0105941	(ii knowii)		January 25, 2001		
	4	wo	0137656		Universal Preservation Technol	May 31, 2001		
	5	EP	0298605		Unilever Plc: Unilever NV (NL)	January 11, 1989		
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Filing Date	June 10, 2005	
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Michael Howard RAYNER- BRANDES et al.	
	Group Art Unit	Unassigned	
(use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet 2 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	MERCK-3006	

		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	A K
xaminer	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T 2
minus	6	POPOVIC TANJA ET AL: "Evaluation of silica gel packages for transport Neisseria meningitides: "JOURNAL OF CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY vol. 36, no. 6, June 1998, pages 1765-1766, XP002271251	
	1 '	MUGNIER J ET AL: "Survival of Bacteria and Fungi in Relation to Water Activity and the Solvent Properties of Water in Biopolymer Gels" APPLIED AND ENVIRONMENTAL MICROBIOLOGY, WASHINGTON, DC, US, vol. 50, no. July 1, 1985, pages 108-114, XP000978796	
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	9	B. Janning et al: "Resistance of bacterial strains to dry conditions: use of anhydrous silica gel in a desiccation model system" Journal of Applied Bacteriology, 77 (1994), 319-324	
	10	J. Antheunisse et al.: "Survival of microorganisms after drying and storage", Antonie van Leeuwenhoek 47 (1981), 539-545	
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